

## **WHAT IS GRACE COMMUNITY CENTER?**

Grace Community Center (GCC) is a therapeutic recreation program serving individuals with mental disabilities throughout Santa Clara County. It is the primary mental health program for the City of San Jose's Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services. In cooperation with the Santa Clara County's Department of Mental Health, the Center also offers Day Rehabilitation services for consumers needing a more structured, goal oriented experience. GCC offers a safe, creative, and stimulating environment for individuals to participate in a variety of social, recreational, educational, and therapeutic programs.

## **WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM?**

Individuals who are eligible for the GCC program must be at least 18 years old and diagnosed with a mental disability. Potential participants include adults with a mental illness and/or a developmental disability. It is preferred that participants be under the ongoing care of a doctor, licensed clinician, and/or case manager, and living in permanent housing upon enrollment into the program.

## **HOW DO I BECOME A PARTICIPANT?**

Individuals can make an appointment for a tour of the Center and an orientation where eligibility may be determined. All new participants must complete a personal information form and release/authorization. The release/authorization enables the GCC staff to contact the individual's case manager, physician, therapist, etc. to determine the individual's eligibility for the program. In addition, by signing the personal information form, individuals agree to abide by the rules and regulations of GCC (please see back). There is a \$2.00 membership card fee upon enrollment and memberships card may be picked up one to two weeks after enrollment at the front office. Replacement cards are an additional \$2.00. Participants interested in working on specific, individualized goals are welcome to sign up for day rehabilitative services. The drop-in therapeutic recreation program is available for participants who desire flexible unstructured activities.

## **WHAT OTHER POPULATIONS ARE SERVED?**

Three specialized therapeutic programs are also offered at GCC. Healing Through Art is an art therapy program for women who are survivors of abuse or domestic violence. Safe Circle is a structured, activity-based evening program for women with mental disabilities who want to develop personal safety skills to reduce victimization.

**WHAT RULES DO I NEED TO FOLLOW AT GCC?**

1. The use of illegal drugs and/or alcohol on the premises or prior to attending GCC is NOT tolerated. Individuals suspected to be under the influence of illegal drugs and/or alcohol will be asked to leave immediately.
2. Stealing is NOT tolerated at GCC. Anyone caught stealing will be suspended from the program and reported to the police.
3. Panhandling, borrowing, buying, selling, trading, or lending is NOT permitted at GCC at any time.
4. You are responsible for all personal items brought to the Center. Do not leave items unattended. GCC is not responsible for your personal items. You may NOT store personal items in the Center at any time. Do not bring large items such as suitcases, sleeping bags, or garbage bags to the Center (except during checked-in for over-night trips).
5. Weapons of any kind or objects that could be used as a weapon are NOT allowed at GCC at any time. Staff will confiscate all weapons. If the weapon is not relinquished to staff, you will be asked to leave immediately.
6. Verbal threats and/or threatening behavior are NOT tolerated at GCC. Anyone making threats to harm persons and/or property will be suspended from the program and reported to the Police.
7. Swearing or abusive language is NOT permitted in the Center at any time.
8. Sexual behavior is NOT permitted on the premises at any time.
9. Participants must abide by appropriate codes of hygiene (including bath or shower and clean clothes) and appropriate codes of dress (fully clothed including shirt and shoes).
10. Radios are NOT permitted at GCC without headphones (a Walkman played softly with headphones is acceptable).
11. There is NO loitering in the upstairs church facility.
12. Smoking is permitted in the designated smoking areas ONLY.
13. Visitor parking is available along the South fence of the Grace Baptist Church parking lot. Permits are available in the Center's front office. Participants/visitors are responsible for obtaining a permit each day they attend the Center. Vehicles without permits will be towed at the owner's expense.

**WHAT HAPPENS IF I BREAK THE RULES?**

Behavioral problems will result in suspension from the program until the participant attends a staff meeting. An intervention may be offered as a condition to future participation at GCC. For example, return to GCC may be contingent upon the successful completion of 6 weeks of the GCC's Anger Management Program.